

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A connecting device for a medical system comprising a first subsystem (101) having a first connection portion (4), and a second subsystem (102) having a second connection portion (5), at least one of the first and second subsystems containing a fluid, the connecting device (20) being ~~adapted~~ configured to connect the ~~subsystems (101, 102) to each other~~ first subsystem to the second subsystem to permit transport of the fluid from at least one of the ~~subsystem~~ first and second subsystems to the other ~~subsystem~~ of the first and second subsystems, the device (20) comprising a container (21) enclosing an inner space, the container (21) being ~~adapted~~ configured to receive the first connection portion (4) and the second connection portion (5) in the inner space, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the connecting device comprises a mechanism ~~adapted~~ configured to permit ~~a user of the device to accomplish~~, from outside the container (21), said connection of the first connection portion (4) and the second connection portion (5) to each other in the inner space.

2. (Currently Amended) A device according to claim 1, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein said mechanism is ~~adapted~~ configured to permit ~~the user to accomplish~~, from outside the container (20), a disconnection of the first connection portion (4) from the second connection portion (5) after said connection has been accomplished.

3. (Currently Amended) A device according to ~~any one of claims~~ claim 1 and or 2, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the device comprises means (26-29) for providing a substantially sterile atmosphere in the inner space.

4. (Currently Amended) A device according to claim 3, characterised in that wherein said means (26-29) comprises a channel (27) permitting an inward flow of a clean gas into the inner space.

5. (Currently Amended) A device according to claim 4, characterised in that wherein said means (26-29) comprises a filter (28) arranged in said channel for filtering the gas before the gas enters the inner space.

6. (Currently Amended) A device according to ~~any one of claims~~ claim 4 and 5, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein said means (26-29) comprises a flow generator (26) for providing said inward gas flow through the channel (27).

7. (Currently Amended) A device according to claim 6, characterised in that wherein the flow generator is adapted configured to maintain an overpressure in the inner space of the container (21).

8. (Currently Amended) A device according to ~~any one of claims~~ claim 3 to 7, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein said means (26-29) includes a disinfectant member (29) for supplying a disinfectant agent into the inner space of the container (21).

9. (Currently Amended) A device according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, wherein at least one of the first connection portion (4) and the second connection portion (5) is associated with a ~~protecting~~ protective end cap (17, 18), ~~characterised in that the~~ said mechanism is being arranged to permit removing of the protective end cap (17, 18) from the associated first or second connection portion (4, 5) prior to said connection of the first connection portion and the second connection portion to each other in the inner space.

10. (Currently Amended) A device according to ~~claims claim 2 and 9,~~
~~characterised in that wherein~~ the mechanism is arranged to permit attachment of the a
protective end cap (17, 18) to the associated connection portion (4, 5) after said
disconnection.

11. (Currently Amended) A device according to ~~any one of the preceding~~
~~claims claim 1, characterised in that wherein~~ the container (21) is openable to an open
state to give access to the inner space and to permit the introduction of the first
connection portion (4) and the second connection portion (5) in the inner space.

12. (Currently Amended) A device according to claim 11, ~~characterised in that~~
~~wherein~~ the container (21) comprises a base member (22) and an openable cover (23).

13. (Currently Amended) A device according to ~~any one of the preceding~~
~~claims claim 1, characterised in that wherein~~ the device comprises:
a first receiving member (41) arranged in the inner space for receiving and holding the
first connection portion (4) in an initial position[[,]]; and
a second receiving member (42) arranged in the inner space for receiving and holding
the second connection portion (5) in an initial position,
~~wherein said mechanism is adapted~~ being configured to move at least one of the first
receiving member (41) and the second receiving member (42) ~~in such a manner that to~~
cause the first connection portion (4) and the second connection portion (5) ~~are to be~~
connected to each other in said inner space.

14. (Currently Amended) A device according to ~~any one of the preceding~~
~~claims claim 1,~~ wherein the first connection portion (4) is associated with a first
protective end cap (17) for protecting the first connection portion (4), and the second

connection portion (5) is associated with a second protective end cap (18) for protecting the second connection portion (5), characterised in that the said mechanism is being arranged to permit removing of the first protective end cap (17) from the first connection portion (4) and the second protective end cap (18) from the second connection portion (5) prior to said connection of the first connection portion and the second connection portion to each other in the inner space.

15. (Currently Amended) A device according to claim 14, characterised in that wherein the first receiving member (41) is arranged to engage simultaneously the first connection portion (4) and the second protective end cap (18), and that the second receiving member (42) is arranged to engage simultaneously the second connection portion (5) and the first protective end cap (17).

16. (Currently Amended) A device according to ~~any one of the preceding~~ claims claim 1, characterised in that wherein the mechanism comprises a first ~~manoeuvring~~ maneuvering member (35) and a second ~~manoeuvring~~ maneuvering member (36).

17. (Currently Amended) A device according to ~~claims claim~~ claim 15 and or 16, wherein the first protective end cap (17) is screwed onto the first connection portion (4) and the second protective end cap (18) is screwed onto the second connection portion (5), characterised in that the said second manoeuvring maneuvering member is being arranged to rotate, at the an initial position, one of the first protective end cap (17) and the first connection portion (4) to release the first protective end cap (17) from the first connection portion (4), and one of the second protective end cap (18) and the second

connection portion (5) to release the second protective end cap (18) from the second connection portion (5).

18. (Currently Amended) A device according to claim 17, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the first ~~manoeuvring~~ maneuvering member (35) is arranged to move, at the initial position, at least one of the first receiving member (41) and the second receiving member (42) away from each other for completing the removing of the first and second protective end caps (17, 18) from the respective first and second connection portions (4, 5).

19. (Currently Amended) A device according to claim 18, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein said moving of at least one of the first and second receiving members (41, 42) at the initial position comprises a movement along a substantially longitudinal primary direction (x).

20. (Currently Amended) A device according to ~~any one of claims claim 16 to~~ 19, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the second ~~manoeuvring~~ maneuvering member (36) is arranged to move one of the first receiving member (41) and the second receiving member (42) from the initial position to a connection position.

21. (Currently Amended) A device according to ~~claims claim 18 and 20,~~ ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the second ~~manoeuvring~~ maneuvering member (36) is arranged to perform said moving of one of the first and second receiving members (41, 42) to the connection position after said complete removing of the first and second protective end caps (17, 18) from the respective first and second connection portion portions (4, 5).

22. (Currently Amended) A device according to ~~any one of claims~~ claim 20 and 21, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein said moving of one of the first and second receiving members (41, 42) to the connection position comprises a movement along a substantially longitudinal secondary direction (y).

23. (Currently Amended) A device according to ~~claims 19 and~~ claim 22, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein said primary direction (x) is substantially perpendicular to said secondary direction (y).

24. (Currently Amended) A device according to ~~any one of claims 19 to~~ claim 23, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the first ~~manoeuvring~~ maneuvering member (35) is arranged to move, at said connection position, at least one of the first receiving member (41) and the second receiving member (42) along a longitudinal direction being parallel to the primary direction (x) in such ~~away~~ a way that the first connection portion (4) engages the second connection portion (5).

25. (Currently Amended) A device according to claim 24, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the second ~~manoeuvring~~ maneuvering member (36) is arranged to rotate, after said moving at the connection position, one of the first connection portion (4) and the second connection portion (5) to secure the connection of the first connection portion (4) to the second connection portion (5).

26. (Currently Amended) A device according to ~~any one of claims~~ claim 16 to 25, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the first ~~manoeuvring~~ maneuvering member comprises a grip portion (35) provided outside the container (21) to be engageable by a person using the device.

27. (Currently Amended) A device according to ~~any one of claims~~ claim 16 to 26, ~~characterised in that wherein~~ the second ~~manoeuvring~~ maneuvering member comprises a handle (36) provided outside the container (21) to be engageable by a person using the device.

28. (Currently Amended) A device according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, ~~characterised in that wherein~~ the first subsystem (101) comprises a dialysis liquid container (1, 2) and the second subsystem (102) comprises a catheter adapted to be operably partially disposed in a patient extending into the abdominal cavity (8), the catheter forming the second connection portion.

29. (Currently Amended) A medical system comprising:
a first subsystem (101) having a first connection portion (4);
a second subsystem (102) having a second connection portion (5), at least one of the first and second subsystems containing a fluid; and
a connecting device (20) being adapted to connect the first and second subsystems (101, 102) to each other to permit transport of the fluid from at least one of the first and second subsystems ~~subsystem~~ to the other subsystem,
the connecting device (20) comprising a container (21) enclosing an inner space, the container (21) being adapted to receive the first connection portion (4) and the second connection portion (5) in the inner space,
~~characterised in that wherein~~ the device comprises a mechanism adapted to permit a ~~user of the device to accomplish~~, from outside the container (21), said connection of the first connection portion (4) and the second connection portion (5) to each other in the inner space.

30. (Currently Amended) A medical system comprising:
a first subsystem (101) having a first connection portion (4);
a second subsystem (102) having a second connection portion (5), at least one of the first and second subsystems containing a fluid; and
a connecting device (20) being adapted to connect the first and second subsystems (101, 102) to each other to permit transport of the fluid from at least one of the first and second subsystems ~~subsystem~~ to the other subsystem,
the connecting device (20) comprising a container (21) enclosing an inner space, and means (26-28) for providing a substantially sterile atmosphere in the inner space, and
the container (21) being adapted to receive the first connection portion (4) and the second connection portion (5) in the inner space,
~~characterised in that~~ wherein the device (20) comprises the features defined in ~~any one of claims 1 to~~ claim 26.

31. (Currently Amended) A medical system according to ~~any one of claims claim~~ 29 and 30, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the first subsystem (101) comprises a dialysis liquid container (1, 2) and the second subsystem (102) comprises a catheter adapted to be operably partially disposed in a patient extending into the abdominal cavity (8), the catheter forming the second connection portion (5).

32. (Currently Amended) A medical system according to ~~any one of claims claim~~ 29 to or 31, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the medical system is a system for peritoneal dialysis, for infusion of a an infusion solution and/or for infusion of a blood product.

33. (Currently Amended) A method for connecting in a medical system a first subsystem₁ having a first connection portion₁ and a second subsystem₁ having a second connection portion₁ to each other, wherein at least one of the first and second subsystems contains a fluid, the method comprising the steps of:
providing a container enclosing an inner space,
introducing the first connection portion and the second connection portion into the inner space,
~~accomplishing~~ connecting, from outside the container by means of a mechanism₁ ~~said~~
~~connection~~ of the first connection portion and the second connection portion to each other in the inner space to permit transport of the fluid from at least one of the first and second subsystems ~~subsystem~~ to the other subsystem.

34. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 33, comprising the further step of:
~~accomplishing~~ disconnecting, from outside the container by means of said mechanism₁,
~~a disconnection~~ of the first connection portion from the second connection portion after
~~said connection has been accomplished~~ connecting step.

35. (Original) A method according to any one of claims 33 and 34, comprising the further step of:
providing a substantially sterile atmosphere in the inner space.

36. (Original) A method according to claim 35, comprising the further step of:
providing via a channel an inward flow of a clean gas into the inner space.

37. (Original) A method according to claim 36, comprising the further step of:
filtering the gas before the gas enters the inner space.

38. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any one of claims~~ claim 33 to ~~37~~, comprising the further step of:
supplying a disinfectant agent into the inner space.

39. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any one of claims~~ claim 33 to ~~38~~, wherein at least one of the first connection portion and the second connection portion is associated with a ~~protecting~~ protective end cap, the method comprising the further step of:
removing of the protective end cap from the associated first or second connection portion prior to said ~~connection~~ connecting step.

40. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~claims 34 and~~ claim 39, comprising the further step of:
attaching the protective end cap to the associated first or second connection portion after said ~~disconnection~~ disconnecting step.

41. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any one of claims~~ claim 33 to ~~40~~, comprising the further steps of:
opening the container~~[[,]]~~;
introducing the first connection portion and the second connection portion in the inner space; and,
positioning the first and second connection portions in the inner space, and closing the container.

42. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 41, wherein said positioning comprises the sub-steps ~~steps~~ of:

positioning the first connection portion in a first receiving member in an initial position in the inner space; and

positioning the second connection portion in a second receiving member in an initial position in the inner space;

43. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 42, wherein said ~~connection~~ connecting step comprises the sub-step ~~step~~ of:
moving at least one of the first receiving member and the second receiving member to a connection position to ~~accomplish~~ complete said ~~connection~~ connecting step.

44. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any one of claims~~ claim 33 ~~and 43~~, wherein the first connection portion is associated with a first end cap for protecting the first connection portion, and the second connection portion is associated with a second end cap for protecting the second connection portion, the method comprising the step of:
removing of the first end cap from the first connection portion and the second end cap from the second connection portion prior to said ~~connection~~ connecting step.

45. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~claims 42 and~~ claim 44, wherein the first end cap is screwed onto the first connection portion and the second end cap is screwed onto the second connection portion, the method comprising the steps of:
rotating, at the an initial position, one of the first end cap and the first connection portion to release the first end cap from the first connection portion[[,]];
rotating, at the initial position, one of the second end cap and the second connection portion to release the second end cap from the second connection portion[[,]];

and moving, at the initial position, along a longitudinal primary direction, at least one of the first receiving member and the second receiving member away from each other for completing the removing of the first and second end caps from the respective first and second connection portion portions.

46. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any one of claims 42 to claim 45~~, further comprising the steps of:

moving along a longitudinal secondary direction at least one of the first and second receiving members from the initial position to a connection position after said complete removing of the first and second end caps from the respective first and second connection portion portions.

47. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 46, further comprising the step of:

moving, at said connection position, at least one of the first receiving member and the second receiving member along a longitudinal direction being perpendicular to the secondary direction in such ~~away a way~~ a way that ~~the~~ a first or second end portion engages the first connection portion.

48. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 47, further comprising the step of:

rotating, after said step of moving at the connection position, one of the first receiving member and the second receiving member to secure the connection of the first connection portion to the second connection portion.

49. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any one of claims~~ claim 33 ~~to or~~ 48, wherein the first subsystem comprises a dialysis liquid container and the

second subsystem comprises a catheter adapted to be operably partially disposed in a patient extending into the abdominal cavity, the catheter forming the second connection portion.

50. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 49, wherein the medical system is a system for peritoneal dialysis, for infusion of a an infusion solution and/or for infusion of a blood product.